

DOZEN KILLED IN MINE DISASTER

Horrible Explosion in West Virginia.

THE FORCE TERRIFIC.

Blown Forty Feet Away.

CAUSE OF EXPLOSION UNKNOWN

of Powder Was Used, While the
Miners Insist That it Was
Caused by Fire Damp.
Coroner's Inquest
Held To-Day.

PHILLIPI, W. VA., November 3.—One of the greatest calamities in the history of Barbour county, occurred this morning at 1 o'clock at the mines of the Southern Coal and Transportation Company, at

Herrysburg, six miles from this place. As a result there are dead:

- Ollie Marks, pit boss.
- Andrew Blackwell.
- Albert Brown.
- Lawrence Deancun.
- Pack Adams, and seven others whose names are not obtainable.

The injured are: Will Marks and James Jackson, both of whom will die.

FORCE TERRIFIC.

The explosion was so great that mules were killed at the mouth of the mine, and the cars were blown forty feet from the track. One man was blown in two at the loins and his body thrown against a pile of lumber at the mouth of the mine.

The explosion was probably the result of an accidental discharge of dynamite, caused perhaps by the concussion of a blast. The property loss is slight. No blame can be attached to the officials of the company.

A coroner's inquest will be held to-morrow, at which time additional facts as to the cause of the explosion may be obtained.

The report of the explosion was so great that two men were found sixty feet of the mouth of the mine. An hour after the explosion hundreds had visited the mine. The call for relief brought every physician in Phillips to the scene. The

sight was a most horrible one. Stretched along the main channel and about the opening were the arms, legs, hands, and other portions of the bodies of the dead miners. Fathers and mothers were frantically hunting for sons, and as fast as a body was recovered they would glance at

There is a great deal of comment about the cause of the explosion. The authors

ties refused to discuss the matter further than to say it was caused by an excessive charge of powder being used. The miners insist that it was caused by fire damp. The mine was recently inspected and pronounced to be in good condition.

As the work of removing the dead gold

on things look worse. Four men have been brought out during the last hour and the searchers report that a dozen are yet in the mine. Most of those brought out are mutilated beyond description. The mines of Berryburg have only been searched a short time. They have had

operated short time. They have had a great deal of trouble. First the mines were flooded and then the men struck. Last week the stables were set on fire and twenty-six horses burned. Now comes the explosion.

owner, arrived here this morning, but refused to discuss the affair. Most of the miners have been here but a few weeks and as they were almost unknown to each other, it is hard to recognize a man when he is found. Most of them came from North Carolina and the District of Colum

UGLY RUMORS.

Ugly rumors have been afloat all day long about the cause of the disaster. The most charitable guess reaction to place on the matter is that it was due to the inexperience of the mine boss, Ollie Marks, who

A messenger just returned from the mines states that the bodies of twelve men have been brought out, eight of whom were

recognized. Four men are in the hospital not expected to live till morning. Twenty men are unaccounted for. The men were mostly negroes and slaves.

There will be a called meeting at Le Camp Hall Monday at half-past four. Election of delegates, vote on constitution of United Daughters Confederacy.

All members of Richmond Chapter having tickets to Stafford lectures will report at this meeting.

SUMMARY OF TO-DAY'S NEWS.

Local.

—Spirited debate on the Issues.
—Chairman Gordon issues address to

- Bussy night ahead for councilmen.
- Horse was electrocuted.
- Splendid hotel to be erected.
- Will dedicate the Home to-day.
- Sunday in the churches.
- Two congregations may unite.
- The motorman was blameless.

- Schooner sunk by a steamboat in Lancaster county.
- The big barbecue at Toano a success despite the rain.
- A deck hand's leg cut off by a rope at Norfolk.
- A big argument due in Newport News.

—Yesterday witnessed closing of the presidential campaign throughout the country.

—Boers continue to be very troublesome in foreign.

—Heavy fighting reported in China between Chinese and an Anglo-German force of 1,500.

—Lord Roberts has words of "b" "ain" for his troops.